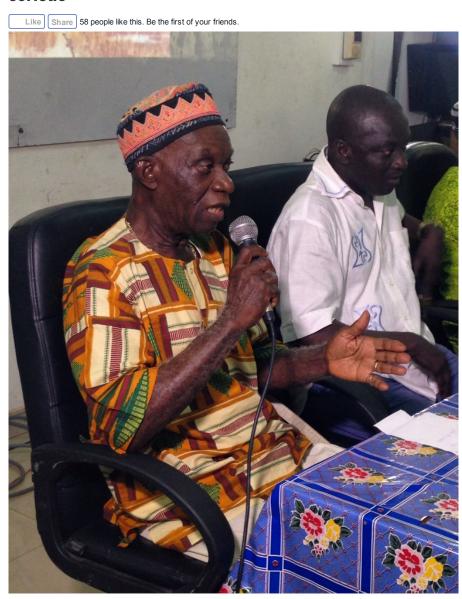






# Sol Amarfio - Ghanaian Musicians must take songwriting serious



A founding member of international chart busting group Osibisa, Sol Amarfio has advised young Ghanaian musicians to be disciplined and dedicated to their profession. Speaking at a seminar dubbed "Going Global with your Music: The Osibisa Experience by Bessa Simons" at the University of Ghana, Legon, the septuagenarian advised the youth to be dedicated to whatever professions they find themselves in and

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On his part, Bessa Simons who was the lead resource person underscored the cultural grounding of the group as the basis for their success. He said this was the bedrock upon which they built the various fusions from the diverse influences they had picked up from playing all music forms. Bessa Simons also spoke about the essence of a solid management team in a musician's bid to go global. He advised the students to remain committed to their culture while exploring global influences to be able to create music that has a universal appeal.

The Head of Department of Music of the School of Performing Arts of the University of Ghana, Legon, Dr Joshua Amuah who chaired the function advised the students to take the lessons imparted by the two musicians seriously, fusing it with the academic knowledge to develop world class music. He also advised them to consider scoring the popular music of the day into songbooks for music lovers and students to use in playing these popular tunes. Some of the students who participated in the seminar expressed their pleasure at participating in the seminar and said they will apply the lessons they have gathered from the seminar in their career. A lecturer of the Department of Music Eric Sunu Doe was presented with a citation by the Musicians Union of Ghana for his role in refocusing the erstwhile Legon Pop Ensemble into the Legon Highlife Ensemble among other contribution to the development of Highlife music.

The Going Global with your Music: The Osibisa Experience by Bessa Simons was under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts with support from the Ghana Culture Forum and the Musicians Union of Ghana (MUSIGA). George Bosompim a member of Bessa Simon's management team said the seminar is a pilot project which they hope to replicate at a number of universities in the country.



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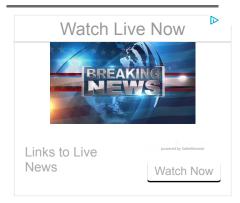


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